

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner has allowed claims 1-15 and 30-35. The Examiner also rejected claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over XP-002187650 in view of XP-002233791, but indicated that that its dependent claims 20-22 and 29 contained allowable subject matter. Therefore, Applicant has amended claim 16 to include the subject matter of claim 21 and its intervening claim 17, which are now cancelled. Claim 22 has been amended to now depend from claim 16. Additionally, Applicant adds new claim 46 without adding new matter. Claim 46 incorporates the allowed subject matter of claims 16-20. Finally, Applicant has cancelled claims 36-45 without prejudice. As such, the §103 rejections to claims 36-45 are moot.

In light of the foregoing amendments, all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all pending claims.

Dated: May 30, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

COATS & BENNETT, P.L.L.C.



Stephen A. Herrera
Registration No.: 47,642

P.O. Box 5
Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 854-1844
Facsimile: (919) 854-2084